

It is because of America's leadership that we have democracy in Russia. And racial equality in South Africa. And democracy in Haiti. Would we have wanted to bargain that away to make a poorly timed political point?

I urge you to vote no on the Hefley bill—so that peace talks can at least proceed, without the baggage this bill would impose. Then we can have our vote on the proper role of U.S. troops. And we will know that we first gave the peace process a real chance to succeed.

Defeat this bill.

#### EUROPEAN UNION SHOULD APPROVE A CUSTOMS UNION WITH TURKEY

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 20, 1995

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, my interest in the Republic of Turkey has increased since my visit there in August, so I would like to bring some attention to the debate in the European Parliament about the approval of a customs union with Turkey. This decision will have a major impact on western strategic and economic interests.

The key question is whether or not the European Parliament will accept or reject this promising nation of over 60 million people, thus making the future of the EU's southern flank uncertain.

As you know, the Republic of Turkey, established in 1923, is a western-style, secular democracy. It has distanced itself from the religious extremism of the Ottoman Empire, and emerged as a strong pillar of hope for secularism in the Moslem world. Over the past 72 years, Turkey has developed into a mature democracy with steadfast institutions and an independent judiciary. The Turkish Government and population are committed to furthering and enhancing Turkey's democracy. This is demonstrated by recent reforms passed by the Turkish Parliament. These ongoing reforms coupled with increasing economic potential, enable the country to play a larger, more significant role in Europe's economic and political growth.

Today, Turkey is a model for the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union—namely Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Kazakhstan. I think you'd agree that it is in our interest that these countries, which have rich, natural resources and educated population, choose to follow Turkey's example rather than those of its other neighbors.

In addition, Turkey's code of laws has been aligned with those of other European countries, as the parliament has passed significant pieces of legislation including laws on copyrights, decentralization, and human rights. Some of our European colleagues suggest that such initiatives are insufficient, and that the customs union decision should be delayed until the Turkish Parliament satisfies their concerns.

I would like to ask our European colleagues to keep in mind the difficulties of a democratic system—the mechanics of the democratic process which require extensive debate and parliamentary approval in order to bring about legislative changes. If Turkey were a dictato-

rial regime, the government would dictate changes which would be readily approved.

Although reform in a democratic system is tough, there have been dramatic changes to Turkey's laws. On the human rights front are amendments to article 8 of the antiterrorism law. These changes promote the freedom of expression, and have permitted the release of prisoners detained under this article. In fact, a week after these changes, the courts released 82 people—an impressive response by any standard. Last July, Turkey's Parliament passed 16 amendments to the constitution, expanding and strengthening its democracy.

Turkey is clearly situated in a volatile area, as they share borders with Iraq, Iran, Syria and former Soviet States. Those that support the advancement of democracy and human rights should ask themselves how these principles would better be served—by bringing Turkey into the European fold, anchoring it to the West, or leaving Turkey to languish outside of Europe.

Mr. Speaker, I think that many of my colleagues would agree that a "yes" vote on EU customs union for Turkey is the right move—right for Europe, right for Turkey, right for democracy and human rights. I hope you'll join me in urging the European Parliament to vote in favor of the customs union with Turkey on December 14.

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EBONY MAGAZINE

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 20, 1995

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the historic symbols and witness-participants that have chronicled the hopes and aspirations of the African-American community for 50 years—Ebony magazine and its founder and guiding spirit, John H. Johnson.

In November 1945, Ebony magazine was born. This was a time of new beginnings for both black and white Americans. It was a period that has been remembered as the beginning of the Jackie Robinson revolution in athletics and the Thurgood Marshall Revolution in the legal and judicial arenas, and it signaled the beginning of the browning of American culture—in music, fashion, and beauty.

Ebony magazine and its founder, John H. Johnson, are so closely identified with the major changes of this period that it would be virtually impossible to acknowledge these changes without acknowledging the contributions of these two icons.

The perceptions and images of black America during his period underwent a revolutionary shift which has affected every American, both white and black, and it is clear that John H. Johnson and his Ebony magazine truly became both the architects and chroniclers of this new African-American spirit.

For me, Ebony magazine and its founder are especially powerful images. It was through Ebony that we first witnessed the successes and contributions of African-Americans throughout all realms of Society. Ebony heralded our achievements in the performing arts, in the business community, and in the professions of law and medicine—all the while cele-

brating the spirit and unity of the African-American community. It was through Ebony that I, like millions of other Americans, first learned of the living richness of our unique culture.

For 50 years, Ebony magazine has truly embodied our Nations' diverse heritage. Through its pages, millions around the world have been exposed to African-American stories of struggle and triumph. Ebony has been successful in empowering and infusing the African-American people with the pride and determination to overcome the hurdles imposed by our Nation's cultural divisions and racial barriers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to these two great pioneers of black communications who have triumphantly broken through all the barriers that so limited their predecessors. Ebony magazine has laid the foundation for all contemporary black publications, and every black personality working in the communications industry today owes them a great debt.

Ebony and John H. Johnson have helped change what white Americans think about blacks and what black Americans think about themselves. Ebony was founded to give both blacks and whites an increased awareness of the possibilities of a new and different world.

In the words of Ebony's founder: "We wanted to give hope. In a world of negative black images, we wanted to provide positive black images. In a world that said blacks could do few things, we wanted to say the could do any thing."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say the Ebony magazine, headquartered in my Seventh Congressional District of Illinois, has fulfilled that mission and it is my sincere belief that it will remain the vanguard, continuing to capture the beauty and proud spirit of the African-American people.

HONORING KENNETH R. KORNHAUSER, FRED MILSTEIN, AND LEONARD COOPER

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 20, 1995

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with the members of the Suffolk Association for Jewish Educational Services [SAJES] and my constituents in the Fifth Congressional District as they gather to honor Kenneth R. Kornhauser, Fred Milstein and Leonard Cooper for distinguished service in advancing the cause of Jewish education in Suffolk County, NY.

Through innovative and creative leadership, Kenneth R. Kornhauser has provided a solid basis of support to the advancement of quality Jewish education. A member of Temple Beth Torah, Kenneth is an involved board member of an array of Jewish organizations that include the Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center, the Gurwin Jewish Geriatric Center, the United Jewish Community Center of Long Island, and SAJES.

Honoree Fred Milstein also is being recognized for his endless dedication to the Suffolk Jewish Community. He has exemplified himself and enhanced the community through his active and effective participation as a member